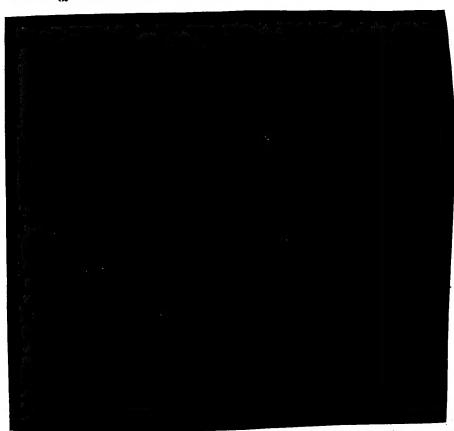
IRAQ:

Continuing To Hide Illicit Weapons

Baghdad is still trying to deceive UN inspection teams and to acquire technology to reconstruct prohibited military programs.



Comment: Saddam's determination to rebuild his weapons programs overrides any concessions to the UN, which were, at best, a tactical retreat. Iraqi officials probably will continue to be evasive during discussions with UN and IAEA inspectors, as they try to determine how much is known about their undeclared activity. Saddam's recent success in resuming Air Force operations without foreign intervention may well embolden him to try harder to obstruct inspections and hide equipment.

RELEASED____

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